



## FACTSHEET

### What is the Youth Connections Program?

The Youth Connections Program helps young people who have dropped out of school, or who are thinking of dropping out, to continue with their education and ultimately gain a Year 12 (or equivalent) level education. Youth Connections providers also run outreach activities for young people in the community and aim to strengthen services so young people are better connected to education.

### What can Youth Connections providers do?

Youth Connections providers offer one-on-one case management services to help young people overcome barriers and engage with education. A Youth Connections provider might help a young person to:

- reconnect with family;
- get a mentor; or
- connect with another organisation to help with barriers such as mental health, or literacy and numeracy.

Youth Connections providers also travel to the areas where young people meet, and engage with them through outreach activities.

Program providers help local organisations identify the challenges facing young peoples' educational engagement and work with them to find solutions. This might involve assisting to develop a regional approach for working with young people at risk, identifying and sharing good practice between organisations, or helping schools build capacity.

### Who can refer to the Youth Connections program?

Referrals can come from anyone including:

- family members or friends;
- education and training providers;
- schools;
- community organisations;
- Centrelink; and
- young people themselves.

### What about the big picture?

The Youth Connections Program is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The Australian Government, along with state and territory governments are working to help more young people gain Year 12 (or equivalent) level education.

### Contact a Youth Connections provider

To search for a Youth Connections provider in your area or learn more about the program visit [www.youth.gov.au/transitions](http://www.youth.gov.au/transitions)